Office-Supreme Court, U.S. F. I. L. E. D.

No.

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ALEXANDER L. STEVAS,

IN THE

# Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1982

#### LEONARD ELLISON,

Petitioner.

VS.

KANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MERIT COMMISSION, GENEVA, ILLINOIS, and GEORGE B. KRAMER, SHERIFF OF KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

Respondents.

## PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS, SECOND DISTRICT

STANLEY H. JAKALA 3219 Maple Avenue Berwyn, Illinois 60402 (312) 788-5733

Attorney for Petitioner

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

- 1. Must administrative remedies be exhausted if an Illinois Statute is sufficiently attacked on its face as to its constitutionality?
- 2. Does Ill. Rev. Stat., Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1, Subsec. (a)(5), which provides that "A person commits the offense of unlawful possession of firearms or firearms ammunition when he has been a patient in a mental hospital within the past five years and has any firearms or firearms ammunition in his possession" violates the due process and equal protection clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution in that no hearing provision is provided to refute the irrebuttable presumption of mental unfitness thereby invoking judicial review?

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## PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS, SECOND DISTRICT

## OPINIONS BELOW

On October 14, 1981, the Honorable John A. Krause, of the Circuit Court of the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, Kane County, Illinois, entered a judgment sustaining the constitutionality of *Ill. Rev. Stat.*, Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1(a)(5) on the basis that it was a rational exercise of police power.

The aforesaid judgment was entered in connection with petitioner's complaint for declaratory judgment that alleged that Illinois Statutory Law in question denied the petitioner due process and equal protection under the fifth and fourteenth amendments of the United States Constitution, since it does not provide for a hearing process to refute an irrebuttable presumption of mental unfitness relating to the confinement of persons in mental hospitals within a period of five years while in the possession of firearms or firearms ammunition thereby resulting in a criminal misdemeanor violation (the judgment of October 14, 1981, of the Honorable John A. Krause is reprinted herein as Appendix A).

From the aforementioned judgment, the petitioner appealed to the Appellate Court of Illinois, Second Judicial District.

On September 14, 1982, the Illinois Appellate Court of the Second Judicial District reversed the ruling of the Honorable John A. Krause on the legal theory that the petitioner did not exhaust his administrative remedies.

However, in a strongly worded dissent, the Honorable G. Reinhard of that Court stated that the petitioner had asserted a sufficient attack facially as to the constitutionality of the Statute to warrant judicial review without exhausting his administrative remedies (the opinion of the Appellate Court is reprinted herein as Appendix B).

From the decision of the Illinois Appellate Court, the petitioner filed a petition for leave to appeal to the Supreme Court of Illinois.

On November 30, 1982, the Illinois Supreme Court denied the petition for leave to appeal (the order of denial is reprinted herein as Appendix C).

#### JURISDICTION

- 1. The federal question was raised by the petitioner in his complaint for declaratory judgment filed in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, Kane County, Illinois, challenging the constitutionality of Illinois statutory law to which this petition for writ of certiorari pertains.
- 2. The petition for certiorari was filed within 90 days after the entry of the judgment by the Illinois Supreme Court on November 30, 1982.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

#### Amendment V

"No person shall be held to answer for a capital, or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a Grand Jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the Militia, when in actual service in time of War or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offense to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation."

#### Amendment XIV

"Section 1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law

which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

That the Petitioner was employed as a Deputy Sheriff of Kane County, Illinois.

That on June 23, 1980, at 3:30 p.m., the Petitioner had been admitted into a mental hospital, Mercy Center, located in Aurora, Illinois.

That, at the time the Petitioner was admitted into the mental hospital, Mercy Center, Aurora, Illinois, there was in effect an Illinois statute, *Ill. Rev. Stat.*, Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1(a)(5), entitled, "Unlawful Possession of Firearms and Firearms Ammunition," which provided as follows:

"A person commits the offense of unlawful possession of firearms or firearms ammunition when he has been a patient in a mental hospital within the past five years and has any firearms or firearms ammunition in his possession."

That on August 25, 1980, the Petitioner had been psychiatrically evaluated pursuant to the direction of the Sheriff's Merit Commission of Kane County, Illinois, and had been pronounced fit for duty.

That on February 11, 1981, George B. Kramer, Sheriff of Kane County, Illinois, filed a Complaint with the Kane County Sheriff's Office Merit Commission alleging that

the institutionalization of the Petitioner at Mercy Center in Aurora, Illinois, on June 23, 1980, violated certain provisions of the personnel conduct standards of the Kane County Sheriff's Department, to wit:

- 7.32 "Engaging in conduct on or off duty which adversely affects the . . . efficiency of the Department. . . " .
- 7.39 "Lack of maintenance of good . . . mental condition which interfered with the proper handling of Departmental business."

That on February 25, 1981, the Petitioner filed a Complaint for Declaratory Judgment alleging that *Ill. Rev. Stat.*, Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1, Subsec. (a)(5), violated his rights under the due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution in that it subjected him to disciplinary action possibly resulting in termination merely on the basis of being admitted into a mental hospital while in the possession of firearms or firearms ammunition.

#### REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

I.

THE PETITIONER DOES NOT HAVE TO EXHAUST HIS ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES BECAUSE HE RAISED A SUFFICIENT FACIAL CHALLENGE TO THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF *ILL. REV. STAT.*, CH. 38, SEC. 24-3.1, SUBSEC. (a)(5).

It is the Petitioner's contention that the constitutionality of *Ill. Rev. Stat.*, Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1, Subsec. (a)(5), must be judicially reviewed because it violates his due process and equal protection rights under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution.

In support of his position, the Petitioner cites the case of Walker v. State Board of Elections, 65 Ill. 2d 543 (1976), for the proposition that a party does not have to exhaust administrative remedies when challenging the constitutionality of a statute in certain situations pursuant to the following quotation from that decision:

"We have recognized certain exceptions to the general rule that a party must exhaust administrative remedies before seeking judicial relief. One of those exceptions applies in this case. In Bank of Lyons v. County of Cook, 13 Ill. 2d 493, we considered the distinction between a statute invalid in its terms and a statute invalid only in its application. There we held that a party need not exhaust administrative remedies if the alleged infirmity is found in the terms of statute."

In this instance, in the Appellate Court, the Petitioner maintained that *Ill. Rev. Stat.*, Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1, Subsec. (a)(5), denied him due process and equal protection under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the

United States Constitution, thereby sufficiently attacking the Illinois Statute on its face as to its constitutionality.

#### II.

THAT ILL. REV. STAT., CH. 38, SEC. 24-3.1, SUBSEC. (a)(5), VIOLATES THE DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION CLAUSES UNDER THE FIFTH AND FOURTEENTH AMENDMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

With reference to the due process consideration, the Petitioner argued that, since the criminal statute in question does not provide for a hearing to determine whether persons institutionalized in a mental hospital within a period of five years while in the possession of firearms or firearms ammunition were unfit, the statute in effect creates an irrebuttable presumption of unfitness.

In contrast, in Rawlings v. Department of Law Enforcement, 73 Ill. App. 3d 267 (1979), the Court dealt with the Firearms Act wherein there is a provision for a discretionary hearing for the purpose of rebutting the presumption of unfitness relating to the holding of a firearms owners identification card.

Since the same due process hearing consideration is not provided in the criminal statute to which this writ for certiorari relates and since police officers are not required to apply for a firearms owners identification card in order to qualify or continue in their employment as police officers pursuant to *Ill. Rev. Stat.*, Ch. 38, Sec. 83-2, Subsec. (b)(4), the criminal statute certainly denies the police officer a due process hearing to contest his fitness to carry firearms and firearms ammunition.

In addition, the Petitioner also contends that Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1, Subsec. (a)(5), of the *Illinois Revised Statutes*, had violated his equal protection rights under the

United States Constitution in that it punishes mental hospital patients confined within a period of five years while in the possession of firearms or firearms ammunition on the basis of an irrebuttable presumption of unfitness and differentiates such persons as the Petitioner from other mental hospital police officer patients who have been institutionalized in a mental hospital beyond a period of five years or who are outpatients under medical care without being so confined who possess firearms or firearms ammunition.

Because the Petitioner has raised due process and equal protection violations concerning the irrebuttable presumption of unfitness as it concerns *Ill. Rev. Stat.*, Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1, Subsec. (a)(5), he has raised a sufficient facial challenge to the constitutionality of that statute as is recognized by the dissenting opinion of the Honorable Philip G. Reinhard who states:

"In the instant case, plaintiff's complaint for declaratory judgment alleged that section 24-3.1(a)(5) (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1979, ch. 38, par. 24-3.1(a)(5)) violated his rights both under the equal protection and due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution. An attack on equal protection grounds may be a facial attack and as such fall within the above exception. (See e.g. Director of the Department of Agricultural v. Carroll Feed Service, Inc. (1980), 83 Ill. App. 3d 164, 403 N.E. 2d 762.) Plaintiff has raised the argument that the statute unconstitutionally differentiates between police officers confined in a mental hospital within the past five years and other police officers who have been a patient in a mental hospital beyond the five year period or who have been treated on an outpatient basis. Thus, there is a sufficient attack facially as to the constitutionality of the statute to warrant judicial review without requiring exhaustion of administrative remedies."

## CONCLUSION

For the reasons given, this petition should be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

STANLEY H. JAKALA
3219 Maple Avenue
Berwyn, Illinois 60402
(312) 788-5733
Attorney for Petitioner

## APPENDIX A

CIRCUIT COURT	For	THE	16тн	JUDICIAL	CIRCUIT
STATE OF ILLINOIS	) ,	SS.			
COUNTY OF KANE	1	oo.			

GEN. No. 81 MR 33 Non-Jury

LEONARD ELLISON,

Plaintiff.

v.

KANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MERIT COMMISSION, and GEORGE B. KRAMER, SHERIFF,

Defendant(s).

This case coming on for arguments on plaintiff's Complaint for Declaratory Judgment and on all parties' cross motions for summary judgment, the court, having examined the pleadings, motions and briefs, having heard arguments of counsel, and being fully advised in the premises, hereby finds:

(1) Ill. Rev. Stat. Ch. 38, Sec. 24-3.1(a)(5) does apply to deputy sheriffs such as plaintiff herein; and,

(2) Said statute is a rational exercise of the police power.

Therefore, Judgment is hereby entered for the defendants and against plaintiff.

ENTER: /s/ JOHN A. KRAUSE Judge

Date: Oct. 14, 1981

## APPENDIX B

[Filed — Sep 14 1982] No. 81-885

APPELLATE COURT OF ILLINOIS SECOND DISTRICT

LEONARD ELLISON,

Plaintiff-Appellant,

v.

KANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE MERIT COMMISSION, GENEVA, ILLINOIS, and GEORGE B. KRAMER, SHERIFF OF KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS,

Defendants-Appellees.

Appeal from the Circuit Court for the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, Kane County, Illinois.

MR. JUSTICE HOPF delivered the opinion of the court:

The plaintiff, Leonard Ellison, appeals from an order of the trial court which denied his request for declaratory judgment (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1979, ch. 110, par. 57.1), and entered summary judgment for the defendants, the Kane County Sheriff's Office Merit Commission and George Kramer, sheriff of Kane County. The plaintiff's twofold contention on appeal is that section 24-3.1(a)(5) of the Criminal Code of 1961 (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1979, ch. 38, par. 24-3.1(a)(5)), violates the due process and equal

protection clauses of the United States Constitution (U.S. Const., amends. V. XIV), and that the trial court erred in concluding otherwise.

Plaintiff, a deputy sheriff in Kane County, voluntarily committed himself to a mental hospital for two days in June 1980. After treatment as an outpatient, and an eight-week leave of absence, a psychiatric report concluded that plaintiff could return to duty.

Kane County sheriff Kramer filed a complaint against plaintiff with the merit commission. After referring to his two-day hospitalization, the complaint quoted section 24-3.1(a)(5) of the Criminal Code, which provides:

- "(a) A person commits the offense of unlawful possession of firearms or firearm ammunition when:
- (5) He has been a patient in a mental hospital within the past 5 years and has any firearms or firearm ammunition in his possession \* \* \* ." (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1979, ch. 38, par. 24-3.1(a)(5).)

The complaint further alleged that because he was a patient in a mental institution within the past five years, the plaintiff violated two rules of the personal conduct standards of the sheriff's department, viz: (1) Rule 7.32; "Engaging in conduct on or off duty which adversely affects the \* \* \* efficiency of the Department \* \* \* "; and (2) Rule 7.39; "Lack of maintenance of good \* \* \* mental condition which interfered with the proper handling of Department business." The sheriff prayed that the commission commence a hearing on the charges.

Plaintiff then instituted a declaratory judgment action alleging that section 24-3.1(a)(5) violated the due process and equal protection clauses of the United States Constitution. He also requested that the court grant a tempo-

rary restraining order as well as preliminary and permanent injunctions to enjoin defendants from conducting a disciplinary hearing relating to the violation of section 24-3.1(a)(5). The parties then filed cross-motions for summary judgment, including affidavits in support thereof, and trial briefs.

The parties agreed, in response to the trial court's inquiry whether plaintiff had exhausted his administrative remedies, that they would seek a declaratory judgment prior to the hearing before the merit commission.

The court, in ruling on the cross-motions for summary judgment and complaint for declaratory judgment, found (1) that section 24-3.1(a)(5), of the Criminal Code did apply to the plaintiff, and (2) that the statutory provision in question was a rational exercise of the police power and hence constitutional. Plaintiff appeals.

Prior to addressing the contentions raised by the plaintiff a threshold question must be considered: could the trial court have dismissed plaintiff's complaint where plaintiff had yet to exhaust his administrative remedies?

Although the parties to this declaratory judgment action agreed that their claims should be brought before the circuit court prior to proceeding with the statutorily-required administrative hearing before the Kane County merit commission (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1980 Supp., ch. 125, par. 164), we are of the opinion that plaintiff failed to exhaust his administrative remedies and that they cannot stipulate this requirement away.

The general, well-settled law in this state is that where administrative remedies are available, they must be exhausted before resort may be had to judicial review in the circuit court. (Illinois Bell Telephone Co. v. Allphin (1975), 60 Ill. 2d 350, 358; 326 N.E.2d 737; Dock

Club, Inc. v. Illinois Liquor Control Com. (1980), 83 Ill. App. 3d 1034, 1037, 404 N.E.2d 1050.) However, the doctrine of exhaustion of remedies does not apply in situations where it would be futile to proceed initially via administrative channels. The fact that there are clear indications that the administrative agency will rule adversely is generally insufficient to abort the administrative process. (83 Ill. App. 3d 1034, 1037.) A possibility exists that upon remand the determination of the commission would be largely perfunctory and not based upon any particular expertise. (Saldana v. American Mutual Corp. (1981), 97 Ill. App. 3d 334, 337, 422 N.E.2d 860.) Nonetheless we choose not to anticipate the actions the commission may take. Further, orderly procedure dictates resort to the administrative agency first. Bank of Lyons v. Cook (1958), 13 Ill.2d 493, 497, 150 N.E.2d 97.

While there are broad statements in the cases that a declaratory judgment action can be maintained without first seeking prior relief before the administrative agency when the validity of a statute or municipal ordinance is challenged on its face (see, e.g., Illinois Bell; Cushing v. Pitman (1978), 56 Ill. App. 3d 930, 932, 372 N.E.2d 930; Broccolo v. Village of Skokie (1972), 14 Ill. App. 3d 27, 31, 302 N.E.2d 74), that rule does not apply in circumstances where charges are already pending against the plaintiff in an administrative disciplinary proceeding (see Buege v. Lee (1978), 56 Ill. App. 3d 793, 798, 372 N.E.2d 427; Eckells v. City Council of East St. Louis (1960), 23 Ill. App. 2d 360, 363, 163 N.E.2d 107), or where the issue of the validity of the ordinance sought to be determined in the action for declaratory judgment is currently pending before the administrative agency. (Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative v. City of Charleston (1972), 8 Ill. App. 3d 441, 444, 289 N.E.2d 441.) Nor

is the exception applicable where the statute is challenged for its unconstitutionality, not on its face, but as it is applied. *People ex rel. Kreda v. Fitzgerald* (1975), 33 Ill. App. 3d 209, 213, 337 N.E.2d 44.

In the present case, the sheriff initiated or filed charges against Deputy Ellison with the merit commission, although there is no evidence in the record that a date for a hearing was set. It should be noted, however. that counsel for the sheriff stated during oral argument before the trial court that he had been ready to proceed before the commission when he agreed to postpone the administrative proceedings to allow the plaintiff to bring the current action. It is also undisputed that the parties. by agreement, decided that the hearing before the merit commission should be held in abeyance until the trial court had entered an order declaring whether section 24-3.1(a)(5) was constitutional or unconstitutional. The fair inference to be drawn from the statements which the parties articulated at the hearing before the court below is that the administrative hearing would be commenced before the commission after the court's ruling and that the court's interpretation of the statute would be used to guide the commission.

An analogous situation was presented to the court in Eckells. In that case charges were filed against the plaintiffs, and the hearings on those charges were set but not commenced. There the court of review reversed the trial court's granting of the declaratory judgment construing certain statutes and ordinances and directed that the plaintiffs' cause of action be dismissed for failure to exhaust their administrative remedies. On that occasion the court stated:

"When a matter is pending before an administrative body which is properly acting under a statutory grant of power, declaratory judgment proceedings cannot be commenced subsequently in the circuit court to obtain findings and opinions to affect, control or guide the outcome of the proceeding before the administrative body." *Eckells*, 23 Ill. App. 2d 360, 363.

In Coles-Moutrie Electric Cooperative v. City of Charleston (1972), 8 Ill. App. 3d 441, 289 N.E.2d 491, the plaintiff sought a declaratory judgment construing a municipal ordinance. The question of the validity of that ordinance was then pending before an administrative body. In upholding the trial court's decision to dismiss the complaint for declaratory judgment, the appellate court pointed out that even if the administrative body did not have authority to pass upon the validity of the ordinance, the plaintiff could later seek a determination of the ordinance's validity upon administrative review of the agency's decision. Thus, under the authority of Coles-Moultrie, the merit commission's contention below, that the trial court was the only forum available to determine the constitutionality of the statute and thus the declaratory judgment action should proceed first, lacks merit.

In light of the holdings and rationale of Coles-Moultrie and Eckells, we believe that the trial court's order awarding judgment against the plaintiff and for the defendants must be vacated and the cause remanded with directions that the complaint be dismissed, because the plaintiff has not exhausted his administrative remedies.

The parties may then proceed before the merit commission. After the commission has rendered its decision, the circuit court can, if requested, review that decision. Because of our finding that the plaintiff must exhaust his administrative remedies we do not reach the merits of the plaintiff's claims. Accordingly, the judgment of the trial court is vacated and this cause is remanded with instructions that an order be entered dismissing the plaintiff's complaint for declaratory judgment and injunctive relief.

VACATED and REMANDED, with instructions. NASH. J., concurs.

## JUSTICE REINHARD dissenting:

The doctrine of exhaustion of administrative remedies is a rule which requires that a party aggrieved by administrative action ordinarily cannot seek judicial review in the courts without pursuing all administrative remedies available to him. (Illinois Bell Telephone Co. v. Allphin (1975), 60 Ill. 2d 350, 357-58, 326 N.E.2d 737.) An exception to this general rule is that a party need not exhaust administrative remedies if the alleged constitutional infirmity is found in the terms of a statute. (Walker v. State Board of Elections (1976), 65 Ill. 2d 543, 552, 359 N.E.2d 113.) However, if the statute is valid on its face but is applied in a discriminatory or arbitrary manner, the challenging party must pursue administrative remedies before seeking judicial relief. (65 Ill. 2d 543, 522). Also, in order to come within this exception, a plaintiff must point to language in the statute which, without more, reasonably can be said to violate a specific constitutional guarantee. Northwestern University v. City of Evanston (1978), 74 Ill. 2d 80, 87, 383 N.E.2d 964.

In the instant case, plaintiff's complaint for declaratory judgment alleged that section 24-3.1(a)(5) (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1979, ch. 38, par. 24-3.1(a)(5)) violated his rights both under the equal protection and due process clauses of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution. An attack on equal protection grounds may be a facial attack and as such fall within the above exception. (See e.g. Director of the Department of Agriculture v. Carroll Feed Service, Inc. (1980), 83 Ill. App. 3d 164, 403 N.E.2d 762.) Plaintiff has raised the argument that the statute unconstitutionally differentiates between police officers confined in a mental hospital within the past five years and other police officers who have been a patient in a mental hospital beyond the five year period or who have been treated on an outpatient basis. Thus, there is a sufficient attack facially as to the constitutionality of the statute to warrant judicial review without requiring exhaustion of administrative remedies.

The substance of plaintiff's due process argument is that the statute making it a criminal offense to possess a firearm if the person has been a patient in a mental hospital within the past five years does not provide for a discretionary administrative hearing to rebut the presumption of unfitness which the appellate court in Rawlings v. Department of Law Enforcement (1979), 73 Ill. App. 3d 267, 391 N.E.2d 758, held was present under sections of "An Act relating to acquisition, possession and transfer of firearms \* \* \* " (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1979, ch. 38, par. 83-1 et seq.) for persons making application for a firearm owner's identification card. In my opinion, the challenge here brings into question the constitutionality of the statute beyond its application to the specific facts of this case but as applied to all law enforcement officers. There is no question of fact which requires the administrative agency's expertise for determination nor does the majority opinion indicate what factual question requires the administrative agency's review. The issue presented is one of statutory interpretation.

The majority opinion relies on Eckells v. City Council of East St. Louis (1960), 23 Ill. App. 2d 360, 163 N.E.2d 107, for the proposition that where charges are already pending against the plaintiff in an administrative disciplinary hearing one cannot proceed into court to challenge even facially the validity of a statute or ordinance. I think that the holding in Eckells has long since ceased to be the law. (See e.g. Walker v. State Board of Elections (1976), 65 Ill. 2d 543, 359 N.E.2d 113; City of Chicago v. Pollution Control Board (1975), 59 Ill. 2d 484. 322 N.E.2d 11; Board of Education of Hawthorne School District No. 17, Marengo v. Eckmann (1982), 103 Ill. App. 3d 1127, 432 N.E.2d 298.) Moreover, Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative v. City of Charleston (1972), 8 Ill. App. 3d 441, 289 N.E.2d 491, also relied upon by the majority is not pertinent authority on the issue raised here. In Coles-Moultrie, the appellate court found no abuse of discretion in the trial court's dismissal of a complaint seeking a declaratory judgment where the issue sought to be decided was pending before the Illinois Commerce Commission. The decision was not based upon exhaustion of administrative remedies doctrine, but upon the trial court's exercise of discretion in declining to grant declaratory relief. For these reasons I would review the constitutional issues raised before this court by the plaintiff.

## APPENDIX C

ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT JULEANN HORNYAK, CLERK SUPREME COURT BUILDING SPRINGFIELD, ILL. 62706 (217) 782-2035

November 30, 1982

Mr. Stanley H. Jakala Attorney at Law 3219 Maple Ave. Berwyn, IL 60402

No. 57447—Leonard Ellison, petitioner, vs. Kane County Sheriff's Office Merit Commission, Geneva, Illinois, et al., respondents. Leave to appeal, Appellate Court, Second District.

The Supreme Court today DENIED the petition for leave to appeal in the above entitled cause.

Very truly yours,

/s/ JULEANN HORNYAK Clerk of the Supreme Court